

## ABSTRACT

[57] Aspects for processing data in a server may include receiving a packet and determining a function associated with the packet. A blade server handling the function associated with the packet may be determined and the packet may be steered to that blade server. At least one association may be generated or created between a particular characteristic of a packet and a particular function associated with that packet. At least one blade server may be assigned to handle the particular function associated with a packet. The particular characteristic of the packet may include, for example, a packet type, a field within the packet and/or a flag within a portion of the packet. Steered packets may be processed by one or more blade servers that may be adapted to handle the function associated with the packets. A switch blade may be utilized to control steering of the received packets.